

RELIGION.

HE that Fears the Lord of Heaven and Earth, walks humbly before Him, thankfully lays hold of the Message of Redemption by Christ Jesus; strives to express his thankfulness by the Sincerity of his Obedience, is sorry with all his Soul when he comes short of his duty, walks watchfully in the denial of himself, and holds no Confederacy with any Lust, or known Sin, (if he falls in the least measure, is restless till he hath made his Peace by true Repentance) is True to his Promise, Just in his Dealings, Charitable to the Poor, Sincere in his Devotions; that will not deliberately dishonour God, tho' with the greatest Security of being Unpunished, that hath his Hope in Heaven, and his Conversation in Heaven, that dares not do any unjust Act, be it never so much for his Advantage, and this because he sees Him that is Invisible, and fears Him, because he loves Him, fears Him as well for His Goodness as Greatness: Such a Man whether he be an *Episcopal*, or a *Presbyterian*, or *Independent*, or an *Anabaptist*, whether he wears a *Surplice*, or wears none, whether he hears *Organs*, or hears none, whether he kneels at the *Communion*, or for Conscience Sake stands or sits, he hath the Life of Religion in him, and that Life acts in him, and will conform his Soul to the Image of his Saviour, & walks along with him to Eternity, notwithstanding his practice, or non-practice of things Indifferent.

On the other side, if a Man fears not the Eternal God, does commit Sin with presumption, can drink excessively, Swear vainly or falsely, commit adultery, Lye, Cozen, Cheat, break his Promises, live loosely, tho' he practice every Ceremony never so Curiously, or as stubbornly oppose them, tho' he cry down Bishops, or cry down *Presbytery*, tho' he be Re-baptized every day, or disclaim against it as Heresy, tho' he fast all the *Lent*, or feast out of pretence of avoiding Superstition; yet notwithstanding these, and a thousand more external Conformities, or Zealous Oppositions of them, he wants the Life of Religion.

This Paper is said to have been found in Judge Hail's

Closet, amongst other Papers.

*V. The Summpt of 5^m Hail's of the Nature of true Religion &c.
By Mr. Baxter. Part. 2. p. 32.*